

REMARKS

In a telephonic interview on June 30, 2006 between the Examiner and Applicant's representative, agreement was reached to cancel claims 31-34.

The Examiner indicated that claims 1-12 are allowed. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication of allowed subject matter.

The Examiner rejected claims 13-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

Applicants respectfully traverse the § 101 rejections with the following arguments.

U.S.C. § 101

The Examiner rejected claims 13-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the claimed invention is allegedly directed to non-statutory subject matter.

The Examiner argues: “As per claims 13 and 22, the claims are non-statutory as the means are seen to be software per-se”

In response, Applicants have changed the means appearing throughout claims 13-30 to means plus function language.

The Examiner further argues: “As ... per claim 22 the phrase “or transmitted electronically via a transmission medium is non-statutory as a disembodied signal.”

In response, Applicants have deleted the phrase “or transmitted electronically via a transmission medium” from claim 22.

Based on the preceding arguments, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 13-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Based on the preceding arguments, Applicants respectfully believe that all pending claims and the entire application meet the acceptance criteria for allowance and therefore request favorable action. If the Examiner believes that anything further would be helpful to place the application in better condition for allowance, Applicants invites the Examiner to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below. The Director is hereby authorized to charge and/or credit Deposit Account 09-0457.

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